Message

From: Bernier, Roberto [bernier.roberto@epa.gov]
Sent: 8/30/2017 5:46:10 PM
To: Rhotenberry, William [Rhotenberry.William@epa.gov]; McAteer, Mike [mcateer.mike@epa.gov]
CC: Smalley, Bryant [smalley.bryant@epa.gov]; Carroll, Craig [Carroll.Craig@epa.gov]; Mason, Steve [mason.steve@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Arkema Chemical Facility

Thanks Steve. FYI, copied facility statement from link below.

Statement at 7.00pm (UTC-4) - August 29, 2017
The Arkema site in Crosby, Texas has been shut-down since Friday.

The site anticipated the storm, and safely shut down all operations before hurricane landfall. The facility has had extraordinary levels of rain, receiving approximately 40 inches by Monday afternoon. The site has been heavily flooded and without electric service since early Sunday morning. Back-up generators have largely been inundated with water. A small ride-out crew of eleven people had remained on site for some days.

As of late this afternoon, the situation at the Crosby site had become serious. In order to ensure the safety of our ride-out team, all personnel have been evacuated from the site at this time. We are working with the Department of Homeland Security and the State of Texas to set up a command post in a suitable location near our site. We also have been in contact with other regulatory authorities, who are aware of this situation.

Arkema manufactures organic peroxides at the Crosby plant. The primary challenge has been maintaining refrigeration for these products, which are stored at low temperature. The site lost refrigeration to all of its cold-storage warehouses when electrical power was lost and back-up generators were flooded. Our team then transferred products from the warehouses into diesel-powered refrigerated containers, and continued to monitor the situation.

At this time, refrigeration on some of our back-up product storage containers has been compromised due to extremely high water, rising to levels that are unprecedented in the Crosby area. Arkema is limited in what it can do to address the site conditions until the storm abates. We are monitoring the temperature of each refrigeration container remotely. At this time, while we do not believe there is any imminent danger, the potential for a chemical reaction leading to a fire and/or explosion within the site confines is real.

We have no higher priority than the safety of our employees, neighbors and the environment. We have been working without pause to keep our materials safe.

From: Mason, Steve
Sent: Wednesday, August 30, 2017 12:41 PM
To: Rhotenberry, William ; McAteer, Mike ; Bernier, Roberto
Subject: Fwd: Arkema Chemical Facility

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

> **From:** "Faulkner, Mike" <Faulkner.Mike@epa.gov>
> **Date:** August 30, 2017 at 12:19:36 PM CDT
> **To:** "Faulkner, Mike" <Faulkner.Mike@epa.gov>, "Boynton, Lisa" <Boynton.Lisa@epa.gov>, Michael Lengle <michael.lengle@csra.com>, "Thomas.Schneider@csra.com" <Thomas.Schneider@csra.com>, "Monica.K.Rusk@uscg.mil" <Monica.K.Rusk@uscg.mil>, "Runge, Roberta" <Runge.Roberta@epa.gov>, "david_behler@ios.doi.gov" <david_behler@ios.doi.gov>, "Stacey.L.Crecy@uscg.mil"

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Subject: Arkema Chemical Facility

For your situational Awareness:

EPA has deployed its aerial assessment aircraft to assess the conditions at the Arkema facility in Crosby and
continues to assist the TCEQ, our primary regulatory partner in Texas. The equipment on the aerial assessment
aircraft will be able to detect chemical leaks, thermally image the facility and obtain aerial photos of current site
conditions. This information will help first responders in their preparations. EPA worked with the Department of
Homeland Security to develop plume modeling to provide to local responders. The plume modeling indicated the
offsite consequences of the chemical of concern, which are organic peroxide, sulfur dioxide, and chlorine.
The facility is without power and has lost their backup power source for one of the containers. The contents of
that container is approaching auto-ignition temperatures and could potentially detonate within the next 24
hours. The area is evacuated due to flooding, local first responders are in the area conducting search and rescue.
These personnel were evacuated from the area.

Information from the company:

https://www.arkema.com/en/media/news/news-details/Status-of-Plant-in-Crosby-Texas/

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